



carequality

703-398-0960 | <https://join.me/carequality>

Carequality Monthly Information Call

May 25, 2017

Agenda

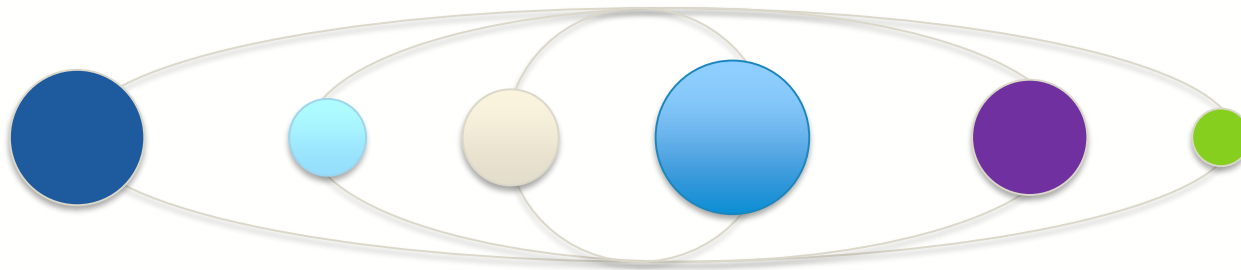
- Carequality Intro
- Production Operations Update
- Ongoing Projects
 - Patient Authorization & Access Policies
 - Non-Discrimination Review
 - Patient Request Queries
 - Document Content Workgroup (Participation Opportunity!)
- Your Questions



Carequality Overview

The Situation

Communities of data sharing partners have formed, brought together by specific needs.



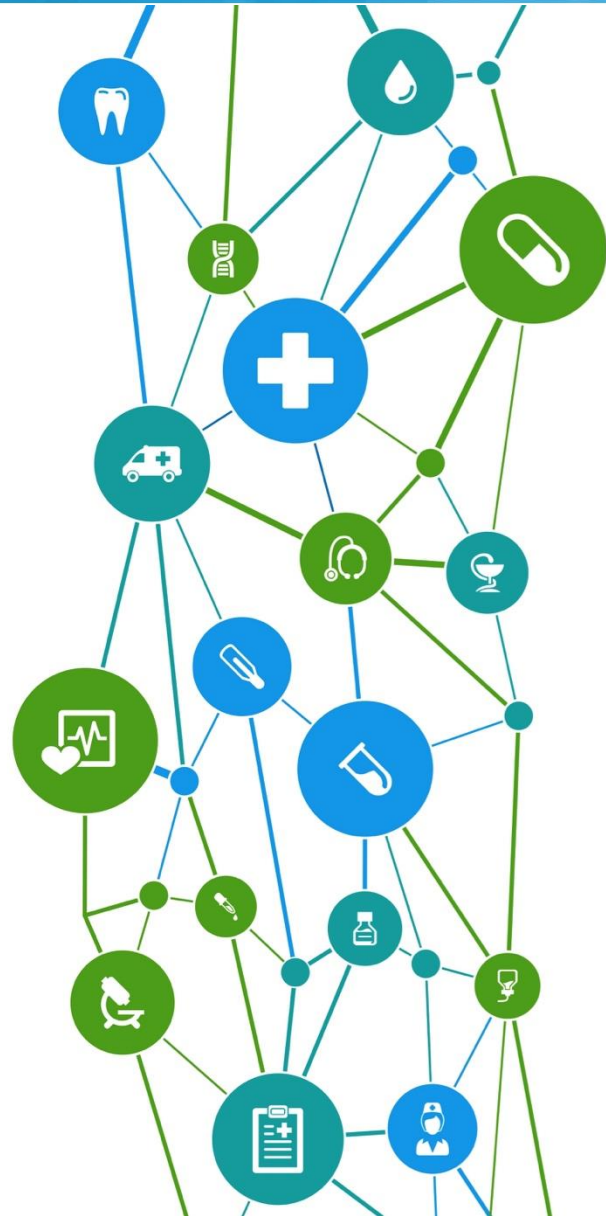
Some are geographically based, but many other types of data sharing communities also exist.

The Solution

Carequality creates a standardized, national-level interoperability framework to link all data sharing networks



Carequality is creating a web of interconnected communities



The Power of Connecting Communities

*How do you get nationwide connectivity?
Clinic by clinic, hospital by hospital?*

Data sharing networks have already connected many participants. The connections grow exponentially by connecting these user communities to one another, as groups.

- ➔ If you connect six clinics, you might reach a few dozen physicians.
- ➔ If you connect six networks, you can reach thousands of physicians.

Carequality Framework

- The Carequality Framework includes a number of elements:
 - Carequality Connected Agreement
 - Carequality Connection Terms
 - Dispute Resolution Process
 - Technical Trust Policy
 - Query-Based Document Exchange Implementation Guide
- Documents are available for reference on the Carequality Wikispaces and our public website:

<http://carequality.wikispaces.com/Carequality+Framework>

<http://sequoiaproject.org/carequality/resources/>

Carequality Members



Production Operations Update

Current Carequality Connected Agreement Signees

HIEs and HINs



Technology Vendors



Service Providers



PHRs



Live Today:



Four others have production certificates and are going through final validation

A fifth is targeting go-live in the next month

Live Sites List: <http://sequoiaproject.org/carequality/active-sites/>

Digital Certificates

- Carequality's security model currently relies on digital certificates issued by an FBCA-compliant certificate authority operated by Entrust
- We have some concerns based on recent events that continuing to rely only on this certificate authority may present a risk of downtime or additional work by Carequality implementers and connections
 - Note, these concerns derive from administrative and operational processes, **NOT** the actual security of the certificates
- We are evaluating options, including trust for two different certificate authorities and an end to our requirement for FBCA-compliant certificates

Carequality Directory

- We continue to work with the initial adopters of our automated FHIR-based directory service
- Enhancements are being made regularly based on feedback received
- We're targeting the next month for the first organizations to begin using the FHIR-based directory in production

Ongoing Projects

Patient Authorization and Access Policies

- The majority of this project's work was completed in 2016
- The project involves significant additions to the Query-Based Document Exchange Implementation Guide
- The changes center on the concept of defined Policy Identifiers that a query initiator can assert, if it meets the requirements of the associated policy
 - For example, Policy Identifiers are proposed to indicate that a consent form has been signed by the patient related to the release of records
- The Advisory Council has completed a review of the proposed policy-related updates
- We are putting the final touches on proposed updates to resolve a few outstanding technical issues, and will review these with the Implementer community

Non-Discrimination Policy

- **Project Goal:** Develop permanent version of current-pilot policy on additional agreements/requirements for treatment-based queries
- **Background:**
 - Carequality’s goal is to allow an “implement once, connect universally” approach for all participants
 - The original Trust Framework workgroup recommended that no additional agreements, requirements, or processes could be imposed as conditions for honoring queries for the purpose of treatment
 - This proposal was adopted, but in a pilot mode for 6 months
- **Current Status:**
 - The team had very productive discussions, without identifying a palatable option to the current policy
 - We are preparing to provide additional education and outreach to ensure that the policy is well understood

Patient Request Queries

- **Project Goal:** Identify, and provide recommendation on addressing, barriers to routine acceptance of Patient Request queries
- **Background:**
 - Carequality currently permits queries initiated by the patient, using the “Authorization-based disclosures” permitted purpose
 - Proposed updates to the Query-Based Document Exchange Implementation Guide that are currently under review provide additional clarity and policy guidance
 - Unlike queries for treatment, patient request queries are not currently required to be honored
 - Today, no implementer universally accepts these requests
- **Current Status:**
 - The group has discussed patient identity-proofing, data provenance in patient-mediated exchange, and differences between documents released to the patient and those released to providers
 - Several recommendations have already emerged, and discussion continues

Document Content Requirements – Goal & Background

- **Project Goal:** Propose document content requirements for future application within the Carequality Framework
- **Background:**
 - Content in clinical documents is highly variable
 - Widely-used templates have ambiguity and room for interpretation
 - A variety of efforts within the industry have been working on proposing content requirements
 - We plan to use this work as a starting point for recommending key content requirements to apply within the Carequality Framework
 - This will be an ongoing effort and we envision a gradual raising of the bar
 - Exactly how these proposed requirements will be adopted and incentivized by Carequality policy remains to be determined and is slated for a future project to follow this one

Document Content Requirements – Current Status

- The workgroup has now had several meetings, with vigorous discussion
- The group reviewed and reacted to background materials from HL7 and the eHealth Exchange, which helped to highlight a number of tentative recommendations
- We expect to generate a relatively long list of recommendations as a first step, and then to whittle down to the highest priorities for action
- In addition to the workgroup's meetings, we are encouraging use of a Slack forum for on-line discussion related to the workgroup's topics
- Others are encouraged to participate in the forum and make sure your voice is heard, even if you're not part of the workgroup
- You can access the forum at the link below, IF we have already added your email domain to our list
 - <https://thesequoiaproject.slack.com/signup>
- If you aren't able to automatically sign up through the link, please email us at admin@carequality.org

Data Element Access via FHIR

- **Project Goal:** Identify an appropriate role for Carequality and its Trust Framework in the FHIR-based exchange ecosystem, and recommend high-level project steps needed to operationalize that role
- **Background:**
 - FHIR-based APIs show a great deal of promise for expanding on the value currently provided by document exchange
 - Work continues on FHIR from a technical standards perspective
 - We suspect that the Carequality Framework could provide similar benefits in the FHIR-based exchange world, to those provided in the document exchange world
- **Current Status:** A tiger team will begin its work soon to research this area further, and make a recommendation to the Carequality Steering Committee on Carequality's role and future project work

Your Questions

Thank You!